

Drake University Faculty Senate Minutes

Oct. 16, 2019

President Carrie Dunham-LaGree called the regular meeting of the FY20 Faculty Senate to order at 3:30 pm, Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Godfried Asante, Michelle Bottenberg, Dan Chibnall, Matt Dore, Shelley Fairbairn, Bruce Gilbert, Michael Haedicke, Paul Judd, Teri Koch, Jerrid Kruse, Yasmina Madden, Erik Maki, Chip Miller, Dorothy Pisarski, Nicholas Roth, Jimmy Senteza, Ashely Sidon, Ron Torry, Jill Van Wyke, Melissa Weresh, Cris Wildermuth, Craige Wrenn, Matt Zwier, Carrie Dunham-LaGree, and Renée Cramer.

The September 2019 minutes were approved.

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College/School Announcements

- SJMC: Public Relations Capstone project by May graduating class won national competition, and Lakshmi Tirumala, new hire, won honors for best paper presented at a conference this past weekend

Report from Provost Mattison

- Sabbatical Policy
 - Summarized changes to policy
 - Questions: If it is a one-semester sabbatical, does the faculty member still need to do a full year of service? Yes, that part of the policy was not changed. However, this could be taken back to the committee to look at this issue.
- Faculty Senate Compensation Committee
 - Klaus Bartschat volunteered to chair
 - Anticipate the committee will address hidden labor
 - Questions that needs to be asked: How do we reward what we say we value?
- Drake Student Survey
 - Within the comments, it was striking the number of students who indicated that #Paint it Black had the greatest positive impact on their growth. It was a negative experience, but positive growth resulted from how the community came together to address the experience.
 - The survey results indicate that community-based projects have positive impacts on student engagement and learning. Each College/School should think about how to build community engagement into classes

- The survey results indicate that students do not perceive that they have opportunities to engage with students who have different ideas from their own. Faculty might look at ways of helping students to reflect on what they are learning from experiences in and out of the classroom in understanding people's ideas that are different than your own.
- Encourage students to take that survey because we do make changes based on this
- Evaluation of leadership will be coming out

Report from President Dunham-LaGree

Student Senate Report: Kasey Springsteen, Academic Affairs Senator

- Student Senate funded two physics students to go to a conference
- Revised funding by-laws so that Student Senate can fund professional development events
- First year students – looking at partnering with resident life; providing on-campus housing during J-term if they are working on a campaign

Report from Associate Provost Erin Lain: Campus Climate Assessment in November

- Kicking off promotion of Climate Assessment at Drake Social, 3:30 pm Town Hall
- Talk to colleagues, co-workers and students about taking the survey
- Sign-up to volunteer – information will be coming out
- What has changed as a result of the survey
 - Associate Provost for Campus Equity and Inclusion
 - Bulldog Foundations
 - All-gender restrooms
 - Fac/Staff leave policy
 - Equity and inclusion statement and commitment
- Looking for new sense of urgency and refocusing our efforts
- New this time: hidden work/labor; political diversity
- Worked internally to review and revise the survey, but hired an outside group from ISU to analyze; will have Fall 2020 town halls to share results

Kerwin Dobbins will be alternate secretary and parliamentarian; also technology

Feedback requested for Faculty Senate website

Unfinished Business:

20-5 Re-endorse Advising Principles (Bottenberg)

Approved on a voice vote.

CAAD document passed around

Statement of Advising Principles (passed Oct. 2011 by Faculty Senate)

Drake University strives to provide students with the opportunity to effectively assimilate the many aspects of their education experiences. Quality advising is characterized by collaborative relationships among faculty, staff, and students that facilitate the development of meaningful personal lives and professional preparation. Advisors assist students in planning their academic careers through activities such as course selection, internship opportunities, and career exploration.

Drake University defines quality advising as interactions that include:

- Contextualizing the student's professional aspiration(s) within the broader knowledge base represented by the student's program of study. As appropriate, advisors are also knowledgeable about the outcomes of the undergraduate Drake Curriculum as well as the graduate and undergraduate programs in the advisor's College/School.
- Promoting discussion and ongoing reflection regarding student academic interests and professional aspirations. Advisors enable students to appreciate how their Drake degree facilitates a range of professional opportunities.
- Assisting the student in identifying opportunities for mentorship.
- Connecting students to the appropriate campus support systems, as needed, including academic support services, career counseling, international programs, campus counseling services, student disability services, office of equity and inclusion, etc.
- Challenging students to examine how the many facets of their life intersect (e.g. classroom experience, student life, pre-professional activity, athletics, research, community service).
- Encouraging students to take individual responsibility for their educational plan and to be literate in policies that govern their membership within the Drake Community (e.g., academic integrity, student conduct, athletic eligibility, etc.).

New Business

20-6 Remove *The Annual* from the Board of Student Communications (VanWyke)
Nicholas Roth seconded. Approved on a voice vote.

20-7 Accept DCAC's 2019 Scientific Literacy Assessment report (Levi)
Jill VanWyke seconded. Approved on a voice vote.

Discussion

What is the next step after acceptance of the report?

- There is not a single, logical next step. The recommendations are under varied levels of authority. The report provides ideas for deep discussion. Faculty Senate can refer items to committee, endorse ideas, or offer suggestions of where they go next.
- Can there be a process to move the recommendations forward?
- The Center for Teaching Excellence might have a role in DCAC cycles. Can we formalize this? Carrie Dunham-LaGree will set up a meeting with Craig Owen to discuss.

Concern was expressed that the Science Literacy AOI expects that students come to the courses with certain level of entry-level knowledge, which this is not necessarily the case.

20-8 Update Faculty Handbook to reflect new sabbatical policies (Miller)
Jill VanWyke seconded. Approved on a voice vote.

20-9 Endorse the recommendations of the University Benefits Committee (Dore)
Erik Maki seconded. Approved on voice vote

- Increase Drake health plan premiums 1.5%
- No changes to coverage or deductible for the health plan
- No changes to dental (except if your dentist is on the PPO, you will now get a discount on many services)

Discussion

- Even though it is a small increase, it comes at a time when faculty and staff get no raises. Could the University pick up the total increase this time? The committee looked at the financial factors and policies in making its recommendations.
- The plans only include Individual or Family. Could we have a third option of Employee + 1? Past analysis shows a split between 'One plus One' and 'Family' plans would result in punitively high premium rates for families. Also, while some of our peers offer the 'One plus one' option', most do not."

The meeting closed at 4:30 pm.

Submitted by Drinda Williams, Interim Secretary